

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of :  
Makoto HORIUCHI et al. :  
Serial No. New : **Attn: Application Branch**  
Filed February 20, 2002 : **Attorney Docket No. 2002-0234**

DISCHARGE LAMP AND METHOD OF  
PRODUCING THE SAME  
(Rule 1.53(b) Divisional  
of Serial No. 09/270,004,  
Filed March 16, 1999)

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED  
TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE  
FEE FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT  
ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975.

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents,  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Prior to calculating the filing fee, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

On page 1, below the title, please insert the following paragraph:

This application is a divisional of Serial No. 09/270,004 filed March 16, 1999.

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Cancel with prejudice claims 10-30 and 32.

Please amend the claims as follows:

8. (Amended) The discharge lamp according to claim 1, wherein mercury is sealed together with the noble gas in the light-emitting portion.

9. (Amended) The discharge lamp according to claim 1, wherein a noble gas and a metal halide are sealed in said light-emitting portion.

31. (Amended) A discharge lamp according to claim 1, wherein the noble gas is argon gas.

**REMARKS**

The specification has been amended to reflect that this application is a divisional of Serial No. 09/270,004.

This application is directed to the non-elected claims of the parent application, i.e. 1-9 and 31. These claims have been amended to remove the multiple dependancies in order to reduce the PTO filing fee and to eliminate improper multiple dependancies. A marked-up version of the specification and amended claims entitled "Version with Markings to Show Changes Made" is attached.

Favorable action on the merits is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Makoto HORIUCHI et al.

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February 20, 2002

**Version With Markings to Show Changes Made**

8. (Amended) The discharge lamp according to [any one of Claims 1 to 7] claim 1, wherein mercury [are] is sealed together with the noble gas in the light-emitting portion.

9. (Amended) The discharge lamp according to [any one of Claims 1 to 7] claim 1, wherein a noble gas and a metal halide are sealed in said light-emitting portion.

31. (Amended) A discharge lamp according to [one of claims 1 to 9] claim 1, wherein the noble gas is argon gas.

SPECIFICATION

DISCHARGE LAMP AND METHOD OF PRODUCING THE SAME

*This application is a divisional of serial No. 09/270,004  
filed March 16, 1999.*

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

5 The present invention relates to a long-life discharge  
lamp and a method of producing the same.

PRIOR ART

At present, discharge lamps, such as high-pressure  
mercury lamps and metal halide lamps, are used for various  
applications, and become widespread and indispensable in  
the modern society. These days, such discharge lamps are  
expected to have higher performance to be more beneficial  
in society. In particular, in order to meet the needs for  
15 global environmental conservation, producing discharge  
lamps having longer service lives is a matter expected most  
anxiously. Under these circumstances, numerous  
technologies for extending the lives of discharge lamps  
have been invented so far.

20 Generally speaking, in a discharge lamp, a pair of  
electrodes is sealed in a quartz glass tube, and a  
discharge space, in which the two electrodes are opposed to  
each other, is charged with an appropriate noble gas so as  
25 to be used as a light-emitting portion. In this light-